



[Home Page](#)

[Press Room](#)

[Contact Me](#)

Washington, D.C. Office
709 Hart Senate Building
Washington D.C., 20510
202-224-6665
Fax 202-224-5301

Anchorage Office
510 L Street, Suite 550
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-271-3735
Fax 907-276-4081

Fairbanks Office
101 12th Avenue
Room 216
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-456-0233
Fax 907-451-7146

Juneau Delegation Office
P.O. Box 21247
709 West 9th Street, Room 971
Juneau, AK 99802
907-586-7400
Fax 907-586-8922

Kenai Delegation Office
110 Trading Bay Road
Suite 105
Kenai, AK 99611
907-283-5808
Fax 907-283-4363

Ketchikan Delegation Office
540 Water Street
Suite 101
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-225-6880
Fax 907-225-0390

MatSu Delegation Office
851 East Westpoint Drive
Suite 307
Wasilla, AK 99654

eNews from Senator Lisa Murkowski - Vol. 1, Issue 6

October 21, 2005

I returned from a great trip home last week to a busy week in the Senate filled with successes for the State of Alaska. This week the Senate Energy Committee passed legislation that will open ANWR and Sen. Stevens and I defeated an effort to remove the State's funding for some of its transportation projects.

During the Senate's October recess, I spent the break traveling throughout the State with visits to Fairbanks, Anchorage, Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, and Skagway. It was a busy and productive week -- from an Angel in Adoption award presentation in Fairbanks to a meeting with Mt. Edgecumbe students and with speeches delivered to Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, Haines and Skagway Chambers of Commerce and Rotary groups. Thank you to all of the communities, organizations and people who I saw during my trip and who provided me with valuable suggestions and feedback to bring back to Washington.



Visiting Sitka

ONE STEP CLOSER TO ANWR...

In the Senate Energy Committee this week, we approved our portion of the budget reconciliation act that contained language to open ANWR to limited leasing and development. At the same time, I, along with Sen. Stevens and the Hawaii Senate Delegation, introduced a separate measure ([S.879](#)) containing all of the restrictions on exploration that we need to ensure that development is carried out responsibly and with care for the environment. The next, and hopefully final, steps for ANWR will come when we take up the final passage of the budget bill in early November. [Read More](#)

907-376-7665
Fax 907-376-8526

Bethel Delegation Office
P.O. Box 1030
311 Willow Street
Building 3
Bethel, AK 99559
907-543-1639
Fax 907-543-1637

DEFENDING ALASKA'S PROJECTS...

When Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) led an effort to reallocate the funding for construction of the Knik Arm Bridge and the Gravina Island Bridge in Ketchikan, Sen. Stevens and I defended the State's interests. The Coburn amendment was overwhelmingly defeated, 82-13. Had it passed, the amendment would have taken away Alaska's funding for the bridge projects and given it to Louisiana for the reconstruction of one of the bridges damaged by Hurricane Katrina. On the Senate floor, I said that such

an effort to take funding away from one specific state, Alaska, was neither fair nor correct. Alaskans have already given and will continue to contribute to hurricane reconstruction efforts, but it is unfair to ask one state alone to shoulder the burden by having only its projects rescinded. Alaska should not be singled out. [Read More](#)



Discussing Ongoing Development in Skagway with Councilman Mike Catsi

RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED



On October 18th, the State recognized Alaska Territorial Guard Day. The Alaska Territorial Guard (ATG), comprised mostly of Alaska Natives, was formed in World War II and worked with the U.S. Army in patrolling Alaska's remote coastline to watch for Japanese attacks. This annual recognition is a tribute to those who protected the State often with inadequate equipment and under adverse conditions. To those members of the ATG who are still with us, I thank you for your service to Alaska and to the country.

While we pause to recognize the members of the ATG this week, we also mourn the loss of an Alaska soldier in Iraq. Army Specialist Lucas A. Frantz, 22, died in Mosul, Iraq when he was hit by enemy fire. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Fort Wainwright. Frantz is the first soldier from the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team to die in Iraq since the 3,800-person unit left Alaska this fall. He has paid the ultimate price for his country, and my sympathy and the sympathy of all Alaska is with his family and friends.

REMEMBER TO WEAR A RED RIBBON

This week the Senate approved my resolution declaring the week of Oct. 23-31 as "Red Ribbon Week." This is the 18th annual resolution commemorating national anti-drug efforts, and will guide states, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Governors and Attorneys General nationwide in partnering in an effort to call attention to the dangers of drug use. While we are making advances, more education and advocacy is needed to prevent drug use among people of all ages. An event like Red Ribbon week serves to help bring all of us together in these important efforts. [Read More](#)

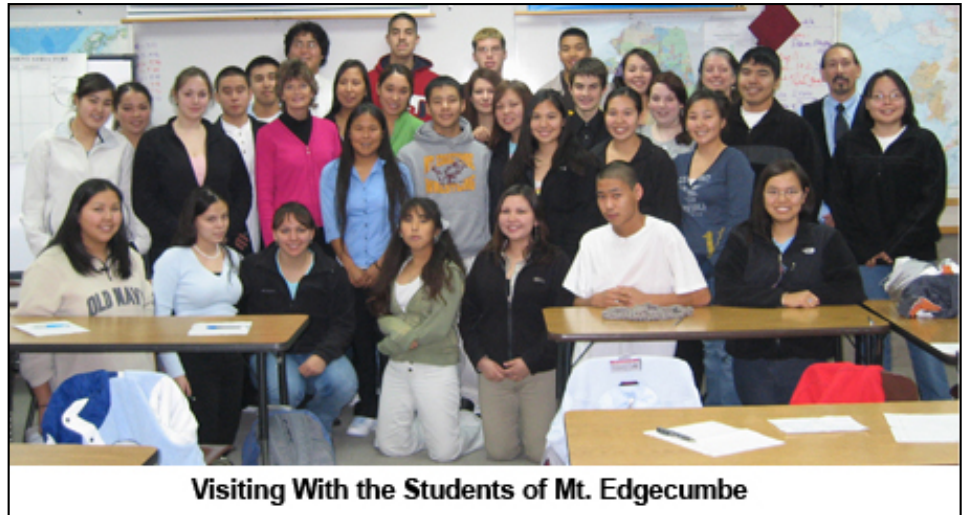


ENCOURAGING STATISTICS

Statistics released this week by the F.B.I. show that Alaska saw nearly a 9 percent reduction in reported rapes in 2004. However, Alaska's percentage of rapes per 100,000 people was still 2.6 times the national average. While the decrease in incidents is encouraging, there is more to be done before domestic and sexual violence is a thing of the past in Alaska. With the recent unanimous Senate passage of the Violence Against Women Act, we hope to be able to raise awareness and continue collaborative efforts to combat violence against women.

AFN CONVENTION...

I want to send my good wishes for a successful convention to all who are gathered in Fairbanks this week for the annual [Alaska Federation of Natives Convention](#). These meetings are important and crucial times for us to evaluate the quality of life for Native Alaska and to communicate with all of Alaska's diverse Native communities.



[Click Here to Receive News From Senator Murkowski](#)

[Click Here to Unsubscribe](#)

Visit Sen. Murkowski's website:
www.murkowski.senate.gov